

I CLAIM:

1. A gaming machine comprising:

a container for holding a plurality of symbolized balls;

an air source for agitating the symbolized balls; and

5 a plurality of compartments positioned adjacent to said container, each said compartment for capturing one or more of said symbolized balls in a random fashion.

2. The gaming machine of claim 1 wherein a wheel positioned adjacent to said container supports said compartments.

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3. The gaming machine of claim 2 wherein the wheel is rotatable.

4. The gaming machine of claim 1 wherein there are eighty symbolized balls numbered bearing a unique number between one and eighty, inclusive.

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5. The gaming machine of claim 4 further comprising an interface for a player to select one or more keno numbers.

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6. The gaming machine of claim 5 wherein an award is determined by the number of matches between the selected keno numbers and captured numbered balls.

7. The gaming machine of claim 1 further comprising one or more reels having gaming indicia depicted thereon.

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8. The gaming machine of claim 1 further comprising one or more access doors for opening and closing an opening between said one or more of said compartments and said container.

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9. The gaming machine of claim 1 further comprising one or more pointers for identifying one or more captured balls.

10. The gaming machine of claim 9 wherein the identified captured numbered balls are used to determine an award.

5 11. The gaming machine of claim 1 wherein one or more of the balls are designated a wild ball.

12. The gaming machine of claim 1 further comprising an air suction source for capturing said symboled balls.

10 13. A gaming machine comprising:
a primary game; and
a secondary game including a container for holding a plurality of symboled balls, an air source for agitating said symboled balls and a wheel in proximity to said container, said wheel incorporating a plurality of compartments for capturing said 15 symboled balls in a random fashion.

14. The gaming machine of claim 13 wherein the wheel is rotatable.

20 15. The gaming machine of claim 13 wherein the primary game is selected from a group consisting of a slot machine, bingo machine, keno machine and video poker machine.

16. The gaming machine of claim 13 wherein the air source is activated in response to preestablished primary game outcomes.

25 17. The gaming machine of claim 13 wherein access doors are opened to allow the rotatable wheel compartments to capture the symboled balls.

30 18. The gaming machine of claim 13 further comprising a player interface for a player to input selected keno numbers.

19. The gaming machine of claim 18 wherein the container holds eighty balls each uniquely numbered between one and eighty, inclusive.

5 20. The gaming machine of claim 19 wherein an award is based on the number of matches between the selected keno numbers and the captured numbered balls.

10 21. The gaming machine of claim 13 further comprising one or more pointers adjacent to the container.

15 22. A gaming machine comprising:
 a player interface for selecting one or more keno numbers;
 a container for holding a plurality of numbered balls;
 an air source for agitating said numbered balls; and
 a wheel including a series of compartments adjacent to said container, said compartments for capturing said numbered balls.

20 23. The gaming machine of claim 22 wherein the wheel is rotatable.
 24. The gaming machine of claim 22 wherein an award is based on the number of matches between the selected keno numbers and the captured numbered balls.

25 25. The gaming machine of claim 22 further comprising one or more access doors in proximity to the compartments.
 26. The gaming machine of claim 22 further comprising a suction source for capturing said numbered balls.
 27. A method for determining a gaming machine award comprising:
 activating an air source to agitate a plurality of symbolized balls within a container;

incrementally rotating a wheel incorporating a plurality of compartments such that each compartment may communicate with an interior portion of the container, said wheel being positioned adjacent to said container;

5 capturing one or more of the agitated balls in the plurality of compartments incorporated on said wheel; and

identifying one or more of the captured numbered balls to determine the gaming machine award.

10 28. The method of claim 27 wherein capturing said agitated balls is facilitated by rotating said compartments so that each compartment comes into contact with an access door which opens thereby permitting an air suction source to pull a random ball into the compartment.

15 29. The method of claim 27 wherein the identifying one or more of the captured numbered balls is accomplished by one or more pointers positioned adjacent the container.

30. The method of claim 27 wherein the identified numbered balls are summed to determine the gaming machine award.

20 31. The method of claim 27 wherein the identified numbered balls act as multipliers of a primary game award.

25 32. The method of claim 27 further comprising affording a player an opportunity to select one or more keno numbers prior to the capturing of one or more agitated balls.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein the award is based on the number of matches between the selected keno numbers and the captured numbered balls.

34. The method of claim 27 further comprising the steps of rotating the wheel after the balls have been captured, stopping the wheel and identifying one or more of the captured balls as winning balls.

- 5 35. A method of playing an electronic keno gaming machine comprising:
affording a player an opportunity to select one or more keno numbers;
activating an air source to agitate a plurality of numbered balls within a container;
capturing a plurality of the agitated numbered balls in multiple compartments on
a rotatable wheel circumscribing said container, said capturing facilitated by rotating
said compartments so that each compartment comes into contact with an access door
which opens thereby permitting an air suction source to pull a random ball into the
compartment; and
awarding the player a payout based on the number of selected keno numbers
which match numbers on the captured balls.

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